

# **Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

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## **Block II: Article VII**

### **Proposed elements for inclusion in the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its third session**

#### **Working paper submitted by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan**

1. The Preparatory Committee recalls that the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, being convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes significantly to the maintenance and consolidation of peace and security at the global and regional levels, launched an initiative for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of Central Asia. This initiative was reflected in the relevant provisions of the Almaty Declaration of 28 February 1997, the statement issued at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Communiqué issued on 10 July 1998 by the Bishkek Consultative Meeting.

2. The Preparatory Committee notes with satisfaction the adoption by consensus by the United Nations General Assembly of resolutions 52/38 S, of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A, of 9 December 1998, 55/33 W, of 20 November 2000 and 57/69, of 22 November 2002, entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia", in which the Assembly calls upon all States to support the initiative aimed at the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, commends the concrete steps taken by the States of the region in preparing the legal groundwork for their initiative and requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to provide assistance to the five Central Asian States in their further work for the early establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

3. The Preparatory Committee notes that in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT/CONF.2000/28, Parts I and II), the Conference expresses support for the intention and commitment of the five Central Asian States to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in their region. The Preparatory Committee welcomes the



practical steps they have taken towards implementation of their initiative and also notes with satisfaction the further progress they have made in drawing up and agreeing on a draft treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

4. The Preparatory Committee further notes that the factual summary made by the Chairman of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in New York from 8 to 19 April 2002, refers to support for the efforts of the Central Asian countries to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in their region.

5. The Preparatory Committee, recalling the decisions of the 2000 Review Conference, reiterates its appeal to all Governments and international organizations that have expertise in the field of cleanup and disposal of radioactive contaminants to consider giving such appropriate assistance as may be requested by the Central Asian countries to rehabilitate areas affected by radiation.

6. The Preparatory Committee notes the substantial progress which has been made by the Central Asian States with the direct support of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General, the Department for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the International Atomic Energy Agency in the process of drawing up and agreeing on a draft treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

7. The Preparatory Committee notes that, at the expert-level meeting held in Samarkand from 25 to 27 September 2002, the five Central Asian States agreed on the complete text of the Treaty and the Protocol thereto. The General Assembly, in its resolution 57/69 of 22 November 2002, welcomed the decision of the five Central Asian States to sign the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty. The Central Asian States call upon the Preparatory Committee to reflect this progress in the report on the work of its third session.

8. The Preparatory Committee notes with satisfaction the two expert-level consultative meetings that were held in New York in October and December 2002 between the five Central Asian States and the five nuclear-weapon States regarding the Treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and the Protocol thereto. These meetings continued the process of consultations with nuclear-weapon States that had begun with the Bishkek expert-level meeting in 1998. In that connection, the Preparatory Committee invites the Central Asian States and the five nuclear-weapon States to continue the process of constructive and results-oriented consultations.

9. The Preparatory Committee notes that the formal and informal meetings to draft the treaty and its protocol, and also the work on their text, took into account the recommendations made by the Disarmament Commission in its report entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned".

10. The Preparatory Committee welcomes the commitment of the Central Asian States to continue working to implement the initiative for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and their intention to sign the Treaty on establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.